

The Honorable Michael K. Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am writing to you today as a current satellite TV subscriber who would like to add my voice against the pending merger of EchoStar and DIRECTV. The combination of these two satellite providers will be detrimental to consumers like me. This merger runs contrary to the American ideals of free and open markets by essentially limiting our choices by reducing the major satellite competitors into one company.

By merging, the combined company will be the primary and only company to offer satellite to rural customers. This will hurt consumers by lack of competition and the ultimate increase in prices. We already have plenty of programming choices and we like having a choice of companies to deal with. Satellite television is already a strong alternative to cable in our community. The merger will bring the availability of high-speed Internet service by satellite to over 40 million Americans who don't have high-speed Internet access but due to the lack of competition the price will skyrocket and be out of reach of the 'average' american who will stick with the more economical and practical modem connection. Many tremendous benefits to consumers have and will continue to happen without the merger.

In the interest of improving our access to competitive television and Internet service, I urge you not to lend your support to this merger.

Sincerely,

Mark Allen, DMD
PO Box 187
Dulce, NM 87528